# The Goldsboro Star.

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#### GEO. T. MASSOW EDITOR AND PROPRIETOR.

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#### CONVENTION OF THE COL-ORED MEN OF NORTH CA-ROLINA.

FIRST DAY-MORNING SESSION.

Pursuant to a call, the delegates and representatives of the colored people from the various counties son. in the State, convened in the Town Hall at 12 m.

The convention was called to order by Col. G. T. Wassom, who briefly explained the object of the call. Rev. W. J. Moore invoked Thornton. the devine blessing.

were nominated for temporary chairmen. A vote resulted in the selection of Mr. Dancy.

On motion of G. W. Price, Jr., Prof. A. S. Richardson was made temporary secretary.

C. C. Best and J. B. Capps were appointed sergeant-at-arms.

On motion, the chairman was empowered to appoint a committee of eleven on credonstate, cousis:ing of one from each Congressional District, and three from the State at large.

The committee consisted of R. M. Lee, G. H. White, J. E. Taylor, J. E. Hamlin, C. H. Moore, A. its chairman, Mr. Williamson, re-W. Calvin, Rev. G. E. Jones, Ed. ported the rules governing the Moore, A.J. Bryant, G. F. Faison, General Assembly for the governand S. Turnage.

During the absence of the Committee on Credentials, the sonvention was addressed by Rev. B. W, Morris, Hon. J. H. Harris, G. applause, on the rights of the col- py gentlemen who desired to ex-W. Price, Jr, and others, upon the ored people as follows : object of the convention.

The committee on credentials, through their chairman, Hon. G. H. White, reported forty-nine counties as being duly represented the number afterwards reached fifty-seven.

On motion of E. R. Dudley, the report of the committee was repeived and adopted.

Mr. Tucker moved that a committe of ten be appointed on permanet organization.

Mr. R. S. Taylor, of Edgecombe, amended by enlarging the committee to two from each Congres sional district.

On motion of Mr. J. H. William son, the convention went into the election of permanent officers.

# FOR PRESIDENT.

Mr. E. Smith nominated Col. G. T. Wassom.

Mr. R. S. Taylor nominated J.

Mr. Raudolph nominated I. B. Mr. Davis nominated J. T. Rey-

nolds. Mr. Henderson nominated Rev.

L. R. Johnson Mr. Spells nominated J. S. Leary

The roll of counties was called with the following result :

Wassom, 42 votes. Dancy, 57 " Reynolds,25 " Johnson, 13 "

The second ballot Wassom received 64 votes, and Dancy 74.

Mr. Dadley being in the chair, Col. Wassom and Mr. Reynolds were appointed to wait on Mr. By Mr. Whiteman: Dancy, and conduct him to the

On being introduced to the con- justice to the colored race.

vention, Mr. Dancy made an eloquent speech, being frequently interrupted by applanse.

The election of permanent secretary being in order Mr. Williamson nomineted ex-Senator G. A. Mebane, but by request of Mr. Mebane, withdrew the nomination, whereupon Prof. A. S. Richardson was elected by acclimation.

N. W Hardlee, reporter for the Wilmington Post, Rev. G. E. Jones, and all editors of colored newspapers were made assistant orcretaries.

On motion a committee was appointed by the president, to whom all resolutions and matters pertaining to the interest of the colored race were to be referred.

The following gentlemen com posed the committee:

Messrs. Lee, Abbott, Fenderson, Harris, Thomas, Wassom, Reynoids, Jones, Calvin, Blunt, Moore, Stevens, Quick, Green and John-

On motion the president appointed the following committee on Rules :

Messrs. Williamson, M. H. Dancy, E. E. Smith, Hannon and

I. B. Abbott and J. C. Dancy the convention took a recess until 7 o'clock, p. m.

## EVENING SESSION.

The convention met in the court house according to adjournment, President Dancy in the chair.

TELEGRAMS

were read by the President from Hon. O. Habbs, M. C., Washing. cord, N. C., and Hon. W. P. Mabson, of Tarboro, expressing sympathy with, and congratulating the convention for the eminent fitness of its organization.

The committee on rules, through ment of the convention.

The report was adopted.

1. The rights guaranteed by the constitutions, State and Na ional. 2. The relation which the white and colored republican sustain.

3. How the condition of the laboring classes could be benefitted by just and human laws.

INTRODUCTION OF RESOLUTIONS.

By Mr. White;

Requesting our Senators and Representatives in Congress to support the educational bill introduced by Senator Logan.

Mr. Lloyd sapported the resolutions.

Prof. Richardson introduced an important decument which was, by request, referred to the committee on resolutions.

By Mr. Harlee:

To appoint a committee to issue an address to the county commissioners in the various counties in the State.

By Mr. Henderson :

Denouncing Senator Jones, of Nevada, for his recent attack up on the colored people of this coun-

By Mr. Williamson:

Endorsing the North Carolina Industrial Association, and spoke to the same.

By Mr. Randolph :

Requesting the committee on resolutions to exclude all matter comming before it irrelevant to the object for which the convention was called.

By Mr. Oates: Regarding the exclusion of colored men from the jury box.

Endorsing the course of W. P. Canaday in defending and meting

SENATOR MEBANE IN THE CHAIR C. H. Moore and G. B. Everett of justice through the machinery By Mr. Sampson:

Endorsing the course of Judge W. A. Moore in enforcing the law while upon the bench, so far as admitting colored men on juries.

To the resolution introduced endorsing Mr. Canaday several gentlemen spoke. Mr. Lloyd, of Pender, opposed the resolution, and thought too much had been said about Mr. Canaday.

Mr. Lee, of Chowan, addressed the convention at some length, stating that the colored people in his county were law-abiding, paid their taxes, and were recognized by both republicans and demo- ed.

PRESIDENT DANCY IN THE CHAIR.

Resolutions were introduced defor unkind treatment of C. H. Moore, and unjust distribution of the patronage of his office. By Mr. Moore, of Craven:

Endorsing W. P. Canaday, and spoke to the same.

A cammittee, consisting of Messrs. Tacker and Middleton, was appointed to wait on the committee on resolutions and ascer-On motion of Mr. Richardson, tain, if possible, whether the committee would be able to report during the evening.

Mr. Spells addressed the convention on matters pertaining to colored jurors, and the rights of INTRODUCTORY TO THE REPORT colored men.

Mr. H. J. C. Chambers ad dressed the convention on the injustice done the colored men of

Mr. Middleton reported that the committee on resolutions would not be able to report during the evening, whereupon, at 11:55 p. m., the convention took a recess until 9 a. m., Thursday morning.

The convention was called to order by the President, who stated that, as the committee on resolutions was not ready to report, the at some length, amidst frequent convention would be entertained political grievances. press themselves on the situation.

spoke and was followed by Mr. Cary, of Caswell, who spoke in measured and eloquent terms, referring to the principles that Jefferson and other prominent Ameri-

The delegates from Lincoln prereference.

the same.

the resolution was opposed by for liberty. Mr. J. O. Dancy who, at the conclusion of his speech, made a motion to table.

Col. Mabson rose to a question of personal privilege, denying the right of the President to so act.

The roll was ordered to be called but the motion was withdrawn, and the resolution was tabled by a viva voce vote.

The committee on resolutions reported, action being taken as tollows:

The declarations were adopted with slight correction.

The second, regarding the Liberal movement, was opposed by Messrs. Wassom, Scurlock, Lloyd and supported by Messrs. Harris, Taylor and F. D. Dancy.

Third, relative to the Industrial Association, passed without objec-

Fourth, regarding Hon, G. B. Everett, and, on motion, Messrs. because the proper administration

of the gentlemen made a state-

ment. There, seemed to have been some misunderstanding between them which was explained before the convention, to the satisfaction of the convention in Moore's fas

Resolution was indefinitely postponed, without prejudice to either. Fitth, regarding the recognition of the colored voter, passed with-

Sixth, endersing the course of Col. Geo. T. Wassom, was adopt-

Seventh, endorsing Hon. W. P. Canaday. Mr. Calvin opposed ed the resolution by inserting the from the courts to suffer horrors nouncing Collector G. B. Everett name of Hon. W. A. Moore, and and privations in the State prison supported the amendment, declar- or at the stockade, who have been ing that Judge Moore had forced condemned by a jury upon which sheriffs to select colored jurymen; not a single representative of their that the Judge had done what no race would be permitted to sit, other republican Judge dared to and from whom they might exdo in this matter. The ammenda peet a fair and impartial hearing ment was accepted.

Eighth, denouncing Senater Jones.

Prof. Richardson introduced a resolution endorsing the course of Col. Thos. B. Loug, recognizing him as being a staunch republican and friend of the colored race.

OF THE COMMITTEE ON RESOLUTIONS.

The right of the people to peace American right not to be abridged.

We admire the spirit which prompted the early barons of England to wrench the great charter of English liberty from the hands of King John at Runnymede six and a half craturies ago. English speaking people and the civilized world are indebted for constitutional liberty to the political force exerted at that first English mass meeting held for the redress of

With so many examples of patriotism in the history of our coun-The delegate from Harnett try which we have been taught to emulate and around which has gathered a halo of such transcendent brightness and having tasted of the sweet waters of freedom it would be unnatural, unmanly, uncan statesmen advocated many American in us to be patient the spirit promptings of manhood. sented credentials and, on motion The love of freedom is not borof Mr. King, were seated without rowed nor does it come to us by imitation. It is an inherent prinbusiness be attended to save the civilized. Men may refuse to as- courts. matter of a just recognition of col- sert their freedom when the con-Col. Wassom being in the chair litical bondage can slake the thirst temple of our liberty.

colored person may be a party.

Great, when in the 11th century rors, and the penal institutions ous plea of the color of a man's cising their rights in the courts eyes, hair, or face and hands which they help to maintain? would operate as a bar to his service as a juryman.

for the recognition of colored men long ago "the black man had no on the juries of our State courts legal rights which the white man because of the race and color prejudice which still lingers in this the essence of a decision of the Susection as a relie of slavery, and preme Court of the United States.

were repuested to make state- of our courts cannot be seenred ments before the convention. Each by making either race the sole arbiter to try cases involving the rights of person or property of the

The acquittal of a white man charged with an offence against a colored man, with a full jury of white mee, seems to be a foregone. conclusion; for the idea that race blood is thicker than water overrules all other considerations, In many cases the trial of colored men in the courts is a mere sham, exceeding in injustice the infamous "star chamber" proceedings.

It is a wonder that the colored people should suspicion the race feeling against them when huns the resolution. Mr. Mebane amend- dreds of colored people are burried of their cases.

It was a system of thwarting the ends of justiae-a mockery of trial by jury that helped to bring on the crisis of the war of the revolution.

Then the American colonists were often sent to an inconsiderable distance from their homes, sometimes across the Atlantic, to be tried for offences charged againt them. The trials of causes in for eign lands, where the accused we hardship indeed, but the accuse were fortunate enough to mee even in remote counties. a ju

that was not antagonistis to them. We do not ask that the names of colored men should be placed in the jury box who do not possess the legal qualifications, but do demand that the officers entrusted with the matter of drawing juries shall not exclude a man from jury service on account of his color.

Nor is the honor of sitting on the jury nor the pay of jurors the motive which prompts us to demand a recognition of our rights to sit npon the juries. The position of a juror is that of trust more than of honor or profit. Following the pursuits of private life is equally hohorable and often far more profitable than the irksome task of weighing right and wrong longer. We have too long stiffed in the scale of justice, and being confined and compelled to hear contradictory testimony and the wrangling of pettifoggers:

I say it is not the honor or the Mr. Lloyd, of Pender, introduced ciple stamped upon the heart of profit which lures us to this cona resolution declaring it to be the man, whether he be white or test for the exercise of our rights sence of the convention that no black, bond or free, savage or to serve as jurors in our State

It is because of the principle inored men as jarors, and supported queror's foot is upon his neck, but volved in the matter. Because an no tenure or wretched nest of po- attempt is made to underming

It was not the tax on the tea to One of the main objects of the which the Americans objected convention is to enquire into the when they revolted and threw to ways and means of securing the cargo of tea overboard in Boston enjoyment of our constitutional harbor. It was the fact that they and legal rights to representation were taxed on the tea without a upon the juries of our State courts representative of the colonies in What we demand is that there the British Parliament. May we shall be mixed juries in all civil not enter a plea that we, the coland criminal actions to which a ored tax payers of the State, who are taxed to defray the expenses Even in the time of Alfred the of the courts, the per diem of jutrial by jury was first instituted, it have a similar ground to complain was never intended that the frivi- that they are debarred from exe-

We are encouraged to make this movement on account of suc-We are impelled to take a step cessful efforts in the past. Not man was bound to respect," was

[CONCLUDED ON FOURTH PAGE]